(b) A quota of 10 lakh tonnes of wheat and 5 lakh tonnes of non-Basmati rice has been released for exports. Export of Basmati rice is on Open General Licence.

Shortage of Wagons

864. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of wagons for transport of foodgrains in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether this shortage is due to transfer of such wagons for transport of cement to Northern destinations from Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) what are the number of wagons used for transport of cement and foodgrains respectively in Andhra Pradesh from March 1st, 1991 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The average number of wagons loaded with foodgrains and cement per day in the state of Andhra Pradesh, monthwise from March, 1991 onwards, is as under:—

Month	Broad Gauge		Metre Gauge	
	Food-grain	Cement	Food-grain	Cement
March'91	221	701	57	76
April'91	225	604	46	61
May'91	225	573	38	69
June'91	302	522	39	73
July'91 (upto 20th)	236	570	61	73

On Indian Railways foodgrains and cement are being loaded as per the targets fixed in consultation with the Planning Commission. Supply of wagons for loading foodgrains and cement is arranged as per the proportionate targets. Due to heavy demand for loading of foodgrains, cement, fertilizer, sugar and other commodities in covered wagons, there is a time lag between placement of indents and supply of wagons.

Conversion of Metre Gauge Line into Boad Gauge Line in Karnataka

865. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka have made representations for conversion of existing metre gauge lines into broad gauge and for construction of new lines;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) since how long the demands have been pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) Lines requested for by Karnataka Government in 1988 are as under:—

1. **Gauge Conversion**

   (i) Bangalore-Mysore

   (ii) Bangalore-Miraj

2. **New Lines**

   (i) Hubli-Karwar